

Proposed Action on Regulations

For information concerning citizen participation in the regulation-making process, see inside front cover.

Symbol Key

- Roman type indicates existing text of regulation.
- *Italic type* indicates proposed new text.
- [Single brackets] indicate text proposed for deletion.

Promulgation of Regulations

An agency wishing to adopt, amend, or repeal regulations must first publish in the Maryland Register a notice of proposed action, a statement of purpose, an estimate of economic impact, an economic impact on small businesses, a notice giving the public an opportunity to comment on the proposal, and the text of the proposed regulations. The opportunity for public comment must be held open for at least 30 days after the proposal is published in the Maryland Register.

Following publication of the proposal in the Maryland Register, 45 days must pass before the agency may take final action on the proposal. When final action is taken, the agency must publish a notice in the Maryland Register. Final action takes effect 10 days after the notice is published, unless the agency specifies a later date. An agency may make changes in the text of a proposal. If the changes are not substantive, these changes are included in the notice of final action and published in the Maryland Register. If the changes are substantive, the agency must repropose the regulations, showing the changes that were made to the originally proposed text.

Proposed action on regulations may be withdrawn by the proposing agency any time before final action is taken. When an agency proposes action on regulations, but does not take final action within 1 year, the proposal is automatically withdrawn by operation of law, and a notice of withdrawal is published in the Maryland Register.

Title 08

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Subtitle 18 BOATING—SPEED LIMITS AND OPERATION OF VESSELS

08.18.01 General

Authority: Natural Resources Article, §8-704, Annotated Code of Maryland

Notice of Proposed Action

[25-060-P]

The Secretary of Natural Resources proposes to amend Regulation .08 under **COMAR 08.18.01 Boating—Speed Limits and Operation of Vessels**.

Statement of Purpose

The purpose of this action is to update the section of the Patapsco River designated as Class III white water. The current section described in regulation is from Woodstock (Md. Rte. 125) to Glen Artney (Patapsco State Park—Old Dam). The reference to an “old dam” in Glen Artney is not completely clear; additionally, all of the Patapsco River dams have been removed, except for Daniels Dam, which is much further upstream than Glen Artney. After review of the area, a physical landmark was chosen as the endpoint to make it easy for users to understand. The proposed action designates Gun Road as the new endpoint. Gun Road crosses the river and is an easy landmark. Updating the endpoint of the Class III section of the Patapsco River will properly apprise paddlers of potential dangers.

Estimate of Economic Impact

The proposed action has no economic impact.

Economic Impact on Small Businesses

The proposed action has minimal or no economic impact on small businesses.

Impact on Individuals with Disabilities

The proposed action has no impact on individuals with disabilities.

Opportunity for Public Comment

Comments may be sent to White Water Regulation, Regulatory Staff, Maryland Department of Natural Resources Fishing and Boating Services, 580 Taylor Avenue E-4, Annapolis, MD 21401, or call 410-260-8300, or email to boatingregspubliccomment.dnr@maryland.gov or complete the comment form at dnr.maryland.gov/boating/Pages/regulations/changes_boating.aspx#wwss. Comments will be accepted through August 11, 2025. A public hearing has not been scheduled.

.08 Boating on White Water Portions of Designated Stream Segments.

A.—C. (text unchanged)

D. The Department of Natural Resources is designating the following stream segments for purposes of this boating safety regulation only, and intends no determination whether there is any right of public access to, navigation along, landing along, or egress from, any of these designated stream segments. This regulation does not apply to the use of vessels on non-white water portions of designated stream segments for any purpose other than access to white water. The designated stream segments are:

(1) Class III—stream segments:

(a)—(g) (text unchanged)

(h) Patapsco River—Woodstock (Md. Rte. 125) to [Glen Artney (Patapsco State Park—Old Dam)] *Gun Road*;

(i)—(m) (text unchanged)

(2)—(4) (text unchanged)

E.—F. (text unchanged)

JOSH KURTZ

Secretary of Natural Resources